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	Most South American leaders viewwith concern	
	the protracted instability in Central America, the	
	involvement there of outside forces, and the threat	
	of military escalation. Nonetheless, for the majority	
	of South American countries, sheer distance, their	
	own monumental economic problems, and dramatic ongoing	
	domestic political change combine to make Central Ameri	ca
	a peripheral issue.	25
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